

Independence

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Independence National Historical Park
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



Building Hours and Program Times *Beginning June 28, 2014*

During “Freedom Week” (July 2 - 5, 2014), Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell and the Independence Visitor Center will remain open until 8:00 p.m.

Independence Visitor Center.....8:30 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

Programs:

- Junior Ranger Induction Ceremony** - daily at 4:00 p.m.
- Twilight Walking Tour** - daily at 6:00 p.m. (no tour on 7/3/14)

Liberty Bell Center..... 9:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

Please note - security screening closes 5 minutes before the Liberty Bell Center closes for the evening

Program:

- Sights, Sounds and Symbols for Families** - daily 9:30-11:00 (no program 7/4/14)

Independence Square (Access to the “Square” is through security located at 5th and Chestnut Streets)

Please note - security screening closes 15 minutes before the buildings on the block close for the evening

Independence Hall..... 9:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

Tour tickets are required 9:00-5:00. Free tickets are available the morning of your visit at the Independence Visitor Center.

Congress Hall.....9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

The Great Essentials Exhibit in the West Wing of Independence Hall..... 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Old City Hall.....9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Carpenters’ Court

Carpenters’ Hall.....open Tuesday-Sunday..... 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

New Hall Military Museum.....Noon – 5:00 p.m.

Program:

- Barnacles and Bullets** - Daily at 1:00 & 4:00 - Find out what it would have been like to serve in the army or the navy during the American Revolution during this “hands on” program for kids. (15 minutes)

Franklin Court

Courtyard.....9:00 – dusk

Program:

- Dr. Franklin’s Philadelphia** (walking tour) - Saturdays and Sundays at 10:00 - Printer, father, politician, diplomat, inventor – Benjamin Franklin achieved much in his long and prosperous life. Join a Park Ranger to hear about how his accomplishments shaped his city, his country and the world.

Benjamin Franklin Museum.....(fee charged)..... 9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

Program:

- Sights, Sounds and Symbols for Families** - daily 12:30-2:00

B. Free Franklin Post Office..... open Monday-Saturday.....9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Printing Office..... 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Other Park Sites

The City Tavern.....opens at 11:30

Declaration House.....tours at 10:00 and 4:00

Program:

- Jefferson in Philadelphia** - Join a park ranger for a talk about Thomas Jefferson’s life in Philadelphia while he was renting rooms in this house during the summer of 1776. Program is limited to 15 people.

Free Quaker Meeting House..... open daily..... 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Portrait Gallery in the Second Bank.....open daily.....11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Programs:

- Bank Orientation Tour** - daily at 11:30, 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:30 - Meet at the Washington Statue for a tour of some of the notable people in the gallery. (15 min)

- Moses Williams: Cutter of Profiles** - daily at noon and 2:00. - Moses Williams created silhouettes by operating an ingenious machine, the physiognotrace. Hear how his skill led to his freedom and see a reproduction of the machine. (20 min)

- Sights, Sounds and Symbols for Families** - daily 3:00-4:30

The President’s House Site Memorial.....9:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

Todd and Bishop White Houses.....ask at the Visitor Center for times

Other NPS Sites

Edgar Allan Poe NHS..... open Friday-Sunday.....9:00 a.m.– Noon and 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Thaddeus Kosciuszko NM.....open Saturday & Sunday.....Noon – 4:00 p.m.

Special Events and Program Descriptions

Paths of the Founders (walking tour) - daily at 2:30 - Meet in the Signers Garden, Fifth and Chestnut Streets - Follow in the footsteps of eighteenth century Americans who moved from being colonists to citizens of a new nation. Join a park ranger for this orientation walking tour of Independence National Historical Park and the world-changing events that happened here

July 8 – 11:45-12:30 - Independence Square - **Re-enactment of the First Public Reading of the Declaration of Independence.** On July 8, 1776 Colonel John Nixon strode to a platform in the State House yard (now Independence Square) and shared the stunning news of the Declaration of Independence with the crowd. Help celebrate this historic occasion and join the crowd to hear a commemorative reading of the document by a park ranger portraying Colonel Nixon. Free copies will be given out so that you can follow along and cheer or jeer.